

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a closed section structure filled with a foam, comprising:

~~a preparing step of preparing metallic powder, a foaming agent, and a metallic flat plate;~~

~~a foaming agent compacting step of mixing the a foaming agent into the a metallic powder and compacting a resultant mixture into a flat-plate-like foaming agent compact;~~

~~a step of attaching the obtained foaming-agent compact to one of side faces of the a metallic flat plate;~~

~~a plastic-forming step of obtaining a closed section structure by plastic-deforming the metallic flat plate in such a way as to envelop the compact and obtaining a closed section structure; and~~

~~a foaming step of foaming the foaming-agent compact, which is contained in a closed section structure, by] heating the compact to a foaming temperature to activate the foaming-agent compact within the closed section structure.~~

2. (Original) The method of manufacturing a closed section structure as set forth in the Claim 1, wherein

the foaming agent is Titanium Hydride powder.

3. (Original) The method of manufacturing a closed section structure as set forth in the Claim 1, wherein

the metallic powder is aluminum powder.

4. (Original) The method of manufacturing a closed section structure as set forth in the Claim 1, wherein

the metallic plate is an aluminum plate.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Original) A closed section structure filled with a foam manufactured by the method as set forth in the Claim 1.